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# Inmate Population Management

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LEGISLATIVE ANALYST'S OFFICE

Presented To:

Select Committee on

Prison Population Management and Capacity

Michael J. Machado, Chair





## Prison Population and Bed Capacity

*(As of June 30, 2006)*

	Women	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	Reception Center	Special	Totals
Inmates	11,749	32,936	34,585	37,754	26,545	25,454	3,538	172,561
Capacity	11,356	23,013	35,122	42,451	20,571	20,063	3,927	156,503
Surplus/ Deficit	-393	-9,923	537	4,697	-5,974	-5,391	389	-16,058

- The current inmate population is about 173,000. However, the department has permanent celled and dormitory capacity for only 157,000 inmates. As a result, the department houses about 16,000 inmates in temporary beds, such as in dayrooms and gyms.
- In particular, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) has significant bed shortfalls for Levels I and IV inmates, as well as at reception centers.
- The department projects that it will run out of temporary bed capacity by June 2007.
- The department projects the inmate population to grow by 22,000 (13 percent) over the next five years.



## Key Population Demographic Estimates

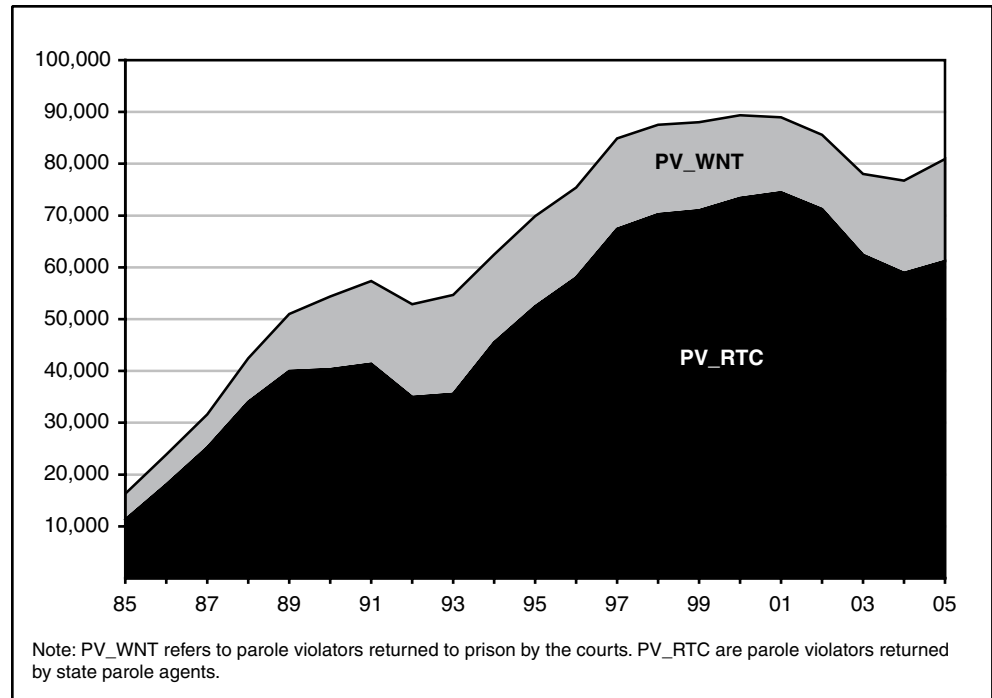
*(June 30, 2006)*

<b>Total Population</b>	<b>172,561</b>
<b>Gender</b>	
Male	160,812
Female	11,749
<b>Age</b>	
18-19	2,035
20-29	53,116
30-39	53,995
40-49	44,651
50-59	14,966
60 and older	3,798
<b>Mental Health</b>	
Correctional Clinical Case Management System	25,903
Enhanced Outpatient	4,512
<b>Rehabilitation Programs</b>	
Read below high school level	116,306
Drug addiction (high need of treatment)	96,634

- In addition to having the right mix of beds at various security levels, population management requires consideration of other demographic and programmatic factors that require different types of space and staff.
- In compliance with state law, court orders, and department policies, CDCR makes certain services available to inmates, including medical, mental, and dental health care, as well as education and substance abuse treatment.



## Recidivism and Population Management



- Recidivism of CDCR parolees is high. Parolee recidivism is of particular importance when thinking about population management because (1) it significantly affects inmate population totals, and (2) it is in part dependent on department policies and procedures.
- There will be about 80,000 parolee returns to prison in the current year. About three-quarters of these will be parolees returned by their parole agents, and one-quarter will be sentenced to prison by the courts with a new felony conviction.
- Changes to the recidivism rate can have a significant effect on the inmate population. For example, every 5 percent decrease in total recidivism would yield a reduction of about 3,000 to the average daily inmate population. A reduction of this amount would yield estimated one-time capital outlay savings of a few hundred million dollars and annual operating savings of about \$90 million.